



Operation Noble Eagle

AT press time, more than 17,300 Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers had been called up to provide security at airports and other facilities around the country.

On Dec. 11, soldiers around the world remembered the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks with a moment of silence and the playing of the national anthem.

Mail delivery resumed to the Pentagon on Nov. 26, more than a month after it was interrupted because anthrax was found at the Washington, D.C., facility that processes the Pentagon's mail. The mail is now screened and X-rayed before delivery to recipients in the building.

Operation Enduring Freedom

ON Oct. 19, two Army rangers were killed in a helicopter accident in Pakistan. The soldiers were supporting raids on a Taliban site in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

On Nov. 14, U.S. forces rescued eight people, including two Americans, who were being held by the Taliban.

On Nov. 26, four soldiers and one airman were injured by U.S. bombs as they helped Afghan opposition forces put down a prison riot near Mazar-e Sharif.

On Dec. 5, three special forces soldiers were killed and 19 were injured when a U.S. bomb missed its target north of Kandahar.

On Dec. 7, 200 rangers returned to Fort Benning, Ga., from Afghanistan.

Throughout late December, U.S. military forces continued working with Afghan forces in the hunt for Al Qaeda troops in the Tora Bora region of eastern Afghanistan.

Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division provided force protection at a former Soviet base outside of Kabul, Afghanistan.

Members of the Army Reserve in Germany packed the parachutes for humanitarian airdrops over Afghanistan, as well as working with active-duty soldiers and German soldiers to prepare the supplies for shipment. The soldiers packed between 100,000 and 200,000 pounds of supplies a day.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has set up tactical field exchanges stores in Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Seventeen AAFES staff members volunteered for the deployment.

The Department of Defense expanded the list of areas in which soldiers are eligible for imminent-danger pay or hardship duty pay. Kyrgyzstan, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan were declared imminent-danger areas. Soldiers in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan qualify for hardship-duty pay. — *Compiled from Army and DOD sources*

Washington, D.C.

Army Realigns Headquarters

THE Army will streamline its staff at the Pentagon and centralize installation management, Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White said.

Funding for installations will now come directly from the Pentagon instead of through the major commands, White said. This will standardize funding levels and free up the MACOMs to focus on their primary missions.

Garrison commanders will report to the Army's assistant chief of staff for installation management through eight regional directors. Each of the new geographic regions will have 20 to 26 installations.

"That's probably the most controversial part of this transformation," said Army Vice Chief of Staff GEN John Keane about eliminating MACOM staffs from the day-to-day concerns of installation management. "It dramatically changes the way we do business."

At the Pentagon, White said his secretariat will be aligned with Army staff directorates. The principals of each ARSTAFF element will become the military deputy to the corresponding assistant secretary. And the principal staffs will be renamed G1 through G8. For instance, the deputy chief of staff for personnel will answer to the assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs. And DCSPER will be called G1.

The deputy chief of staff for intelligence will be G2. Operations and plans will be G3 and the deputy chief of staff for logistics will be G4. The director of information systems for command, control, communications and computers will be G6, and

the deputy chief of staff for programs will be G8.

White expects 700 to 800 positions to be eliminated in the realignment, but he said the purpose was to streamline the decision-making process, not to cut jobs. In fact, he said, the military positions eliminated at the Pentagon will be redistributed to the field and the money saved by eliminating redundant civilian positions will help fund priority Army requirements.

White said about 10,000 positions could be transferred to major commands under the realignment, which resulted from a four-month study and is part of the larger Army Transformation that began in 1999.

The realignment will more fully integrate the Army National Guard and Army Reserve into key positions of authority, to better address key issues and concerns of all components.

The realignment began in December and will be fully implemented by next summer, White said. The U.S. Army Audit Agency will monitor the implementation and account for alignment resources. — *Army News Service*

Washington

NCO-ER Gets New Rating Options

THE revised regulation on the Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Report gives soldiers new rating options.

The last revision to the NCO-ER under Army regulation 623-205 occurred in 1992. This revision incorporates the new NCO-ER, DA Form 2166-8, and the NCO Counseling and Checklist, DA Form 2166-8-1.

Shortening the time required for completing the report is one of the changes in the new regulation, and it will be

one of the most pertinent for NCOs, said SGM Anthony Everette, chief of the Enlisted Evaluations Branch.

NCOs in the zone of consideration for promotion who have been in their current assignments at least 90 days will be able to get a complete-the-record report for promotion-board members to see.

Two optional reports are also being added to the regulation: the senior-rater-option report and 60-day-short-tour-option report.

Previously, a change of rater could generate a new report, but not a change of senior rater. An NCO-ER containing

only rater input is valid and is still reviewed by promotion-board members, but it doesn't offer the individual the benefit of the senior rater comments, Everette said.

On the NCO-ER's Part V, "Overall Performance and Potential," the senior rater has to mark a numeral from one to five, with one being the highest, to rate the NCO's performance and potential for promotion.

Having senior-rater comments on the NCO-ER is extremely important for NCOs being considered for promotion.

The other optional report to be added to the revised regulation is the 60-day short-tour

option. It will be granted in instances when NCOs are deployed overseas for 14 months or less and have more than 59 days but less than 90 days under their current rater. The rater may initiate a 60-day short tour option report.

A major change to the NCO-ER is that the values under Part V of the form now reflect the seven Army core values. Both the new NCO-ER and Counseling Checklist are available online at www.usapa.army.mil/forms/forms3.html.

The regulation changes are also outlined on the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command website at www.perscom.army.mil/ under MILPER messages. — ARNEWS

Army Heritage

Belvoir to Host Army Museum

FORT Belvoir, Va., was chosen by Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White as the site of the National Museum of the U.S. Army, scheduled to open in June 2009.

Currently the U.S. Army Center of Military History at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C., oversees 61 Army museums and museum activities located on Army installations throughout the world.

The Army, however, has no centralized museum dedicated to preserving and displaying the Army's heritage. Each of the Army's sister services either already has a centralized museum or is in the process of building one.

Construction of the Army museum will be funded privately through the Army Historical Foundation — a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the Army's heritage, said Steve Bavisotto, chief of museum programs for CMH's museum division. CMH officials expect that the museum will cost about \$90 million to build.

Fort Belvoir had earlier been ruled out as a possible site for the museum because officials felt the installation was too far from downtown Washington. But the post gained new support in 1999 when Sen. Strom Thurmond introduced legislation aimed at locating the museum there. In his bill, Thurmond said the post's proximity to the nation's capital and Mount Vernon make it a most suitable location.

Fort Belvoir also met the 17 criteria established by a site-selection committee — including its accessibility to public transportation and proximity to Washington — before winning approval from the National Capital Planning Commission. — ARNEWS

Alexandria, Va.

Park Deals for Soldiers, Families

WALT Disney World is offering free admission to active-duty military personnel from Jan. 1 to April 30 at its California and Florida attractions during "Disney's Armed Forces Salute."

Family members' admission tickets will be half price, and all tickets will be valid for a week from the date of issue.

If active-duty personnel, including Coast Guard and activated reserve-component members, can't visit the parks during the special period, their spouses may purchase the special-offer tickets once during the period for up to five family members and friends.

In addition, Universal Studios is offering free admission for active-duty personnel between Jan. 1 and April 30, 2002.

For the Florida parks, military personnel may use a four-day pass that will be accepted at Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure, and Wet 'n Wild. Up to five family members may purchase the four-day pass for \$71.50, plus tax. Shorter-term passes may be purchased at a 50-percent discount.

The offer also applies to Universal Studios Hollywood. Spouses and family members of personnel deployed overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom may take advantage of this offer without being accompanied by the service member.

For more information, contact your installation MWR office or contact Dan Yount at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center via e-mail to Dan.Yount@cfsc.army.mil. — USACFSC PAO



The Walt Disney Company is offering special pricing for military families at its California and Florida attractions.

Courtesy Walt Disney Co.



The WHINSEC, which replaced the Cold War-era School of the Americas, is celebrating its first anniversary.

Fort Benning, Ga.

New School Celebrates First Anniversary

THE Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, which replaced the Cold War-era School of the Americas, has educated 700 students in its first year of operation.

The students — who come from the Americas and are military and law-enforcement officers and civilian leaders — learn about human rights, security and democracy.

Courses include medical-assistance training, disaster relief, counter-narcotics, border observation, peacekeeping and human-rights training.

Civilian professors and military and State Department instructors teach the courses at Fort Benning.

The courses are taught in Spanish, but school officials hope to add English-language instruction as more English-speaking students attend the institute. — WHINSEC PAO

Fort Monroe, Va.

E-Card Will Help With Studies

SOLDIERS in professional-development courses will soon be given a credit-card-size E-Card to help them with research projects.

The E-Card fits into a computer's CD-ROM drive. When inserted, it will automatically show the links to military websites and other distance-learning resources. When the soldier clicks on the name of the website, the connection is made.

"The cards will be given to soldiers attending courses above the basic training and advanced individual training levels," said COL Christopher Olson, director of the Training Development and Analysis Activity within U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. Olson oversees development of the Army Distance Learning Program, for which the E-Card was developed.

When the system is completed in 2003, there will be 700 classrooms equipped to receive or originate interactive video and computer-based training across the network.

Students in the officer and NCO education systems, as well as distance-learning courses, will be given E-Cards.

Soldiers enrolled in eArmyU are issued computers

Personnel Update

Army Enacts Partial "Stop-Loss"

AN Armywide "stop-loss" program will keep soldiers in selected MOSs — mainly those in special operations and some in aviation — from leaving the service.

This selective stop-loss program allows the Army to retain soldiers with critical skills beyond their dates of separation for an open-ended period, officials said. They explained that soldiers affected by the order generally may not retire or leave the service as long as reserves are called to active duty or until relieved by the president, whichever comes first.

The enlisted specialties affected by this decision include MOSs 18B, special forces weapons sergeant; 18C, special forces engineer sergeant; 18D, special forces medical sergeant; 18E, special forces communications sergeant; 18F, special forces assistant operations and intelligence sergeant; 18Z, special forces senior sergeant; 00Z with Career Management Field 18 background; 67U, CH-47 helicopter repairer; 92M, mortuary affairs specialist; Reserve MOS 37F, psychological operations specialist; and Reserve MOS 38A, civil affairs specialist.

The commissioned officer specialties affected are in Career Management Fields 18, special forces commissioned officers, in the active and ready reserve components; 39, psychological operations commissioned officers on active-duty and the reserves; and 38, civil affairs commissioned officers in the reserves.

Warrant officers affected by the stop-loss include those in MOS 180A, special forces, and aviation warrant officers with the following specialties: 152C, OH-6 scout pilot; 153D, UH-60 pilot; 153E, MH-60 pilot; 154C, CH-47D pilot; and 154E, MH-47 pilot.

The stop-loss will also affect all warrant officers with the following Additional Skill Identifiers: K4, special operations aviation; K5, MH-60K pilot; and K6, MH-47E pilot.

No new requests for separation will be accepted from soldiers in categories affected by the stop-loss. Most involuntary discharges will not be affected by stop-loss, nor will stop-loss change any Army policies or regulations currently in effect that might lead to an administrative or medical discharge.

Additionally, officials said the selective stop-loss does not affect soldiers who meet their mandatory retirement dates. — ARNEWS

preloaded with the E-Card information. They should keep the cards they're given, officials said. When soldiers take future courses, they can use them again. If the system has added or deleted website links, the card will be automatically updated when it's inserted into a CD-ROM drive.

The E-Card is based on similar cards used in industry. On the plain side, the playing side, is a raised circle that fits into the CD recess in the computer. Once the E-Card fits into the recess and the tray is closed,

the Web sites on the E-Card are displayed. — *ARNEWS*

Washington, D.C.

Olympic Torch Pauses At Pentagon

THE Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay paused at the Pentagon Dec. 21 and for the first time ever, before the next torchbearer began his stint in the relay, the torch was handed to 13 others whose lives were affected by the terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

"The ceremony was really very simple," said an Olympic official. "One flame, one torch, one moment of remembrance and tribute and one group united in conquering the future."

The ceremony began when Navy Chief Petty Officer Bernard Brown — whose 11-year-old son was killed aboard American Airlines Flight 77 — ran through a row of soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard). Brown then passed the Olympic flame to the first of 13 others whose lives were changed by the Sept. 11 attack.

After a moment of silence, the last of the 13 passed the torch to SSG Christopher Braman, a Pentagon cook who helped evacuate the building. He held the torch high and is one of 11,500 torchbearers to carry the flame.

Army participants who passed the Olympic torch at the Pentagon included:

- LTC Brian Birdwell, military assistant to the deputy assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. He sustained burns to more than 40 percent of his body.
- Carl Mahnken and David Theall, public affairs specialists for the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, who assisted

other survivors and medical personnel despite being injured when their office was destroyed.

- SGT Gary Massoud, a member of The Old Guard, who served tirelessly along with his platoon during the recovery operations in the support area at the Pentagon.

- Teresa Maude, wife of LTG Timothy Maude, who represented the spouses of victims of the Pentagon attack. Maude was the deputy chief of staff for personnel.

- COL Philip McNair, executive officer to the deputy chief of staff for personnel, who helped his coworkers evacuate the burning building and then went back to the first floor to help save seven sailors.

- Keith Morris, the 17-year-old son of Odessa Morris, a budget analyst killed in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Personnel, who represented the children of the Pentagon dead.

- SGT Kenneth Noe from the Military District of Washington's Engineer Company, the Army's only collapsed building rescue company. Noe and members of his unit spent long hours and days sifting through the debris to locate and recover victims. — *ARNEWS*

Army Remembers

Former SMA Dies

RETIRED SMA Silas L. Copeland, 81, died Dec. 4 in Conroe, Texas, following a brief illness.

A veteran of World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars, Copeland was the third sergeant major of the Army, serving from October 1970 until his retirement in June 1973.

Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White said that with Copeland's death both the Army and the nation have lost a patriot, a soldier and a role model.

"His legacy endures today in our great noncommissioned officer corps — the envy of every military in the world," White said.

Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki said Copeland will be remembered first and foremost as a great soldier.

"SMA Copeland was a highly respected leader, a dignified man and a visionary whose positive and very profound influence on the character of our noncommissioned officer corps thrives nearly 30 years after his retirement," Shinseki said.

SMA Jack Tilley, the 12th sergeant major of the Army, credited Copeland with leading the Army through the difficult period following the Vietnam War, when the service reduced its strength from 1.3 million in 1970 to 788,000 three years later. The period also saw the Army transition to an all-volunteer force.

"SMA Copeland knew and understood soldiers, and he was instrumental in the quality-of-life initiatives that made the all-volunteer Army work," Tilley said. — *ARNEWS*



SMA Silas Copeland



David Theall passes the Olympic Torch to Army SGT Christopher Braman during the ceremony honoring the heroes and 184 victims of the Sept. 11 Pentagon attack.

Linda D. Kozaryn